

OFFICE OF CONTROLLER

May 20, 2011

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VIA EMAIL TO Michele Jackson (jacksonm@metro.net)

Mr. Don Knabe, Chair Metropolitan Transit Agency One Gateway Plaza, 3rd Floor Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re:

Vote Yes on May 26, 2011 to Support a Leimert Park Station

Dear Mr. Knabe:

The Metropolitan Transit Agency Board will soon discuss the continued development of the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor and consider amendments to the original plan. The collaborative process used in the development of the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor is already demonstrating that it will be a huge success for the Metropolitan Transit Agency – and for all of Los Angeles. It will create light rail for a whole new part of the City and County, making public transit an easier option for users that will tie into the already comprehensive transportation system here in Los Angeles.

I am writing today in support of improving the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor by supporting a stop in Leimert Park. Currently, the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor plans call for a stop in Baldwin Hills, at the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. This stop, while only a half mile away, would not provide the necessary and immediate access to Leimert Park as a destination point. Leimert Park Village, a historic center of African American life in Los Angeles is a major cultural and business center that cannot be overlooked in this planning process. It will also maximize job creation and economic development potential in the Crenshaw corridor.

I know that the Metropolitan Transit Agency Board will carefully and thoughtfully expend the funds collected through Measure R to ensure that the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor is successful. As City Controller and a strong supporter of Measure R, this is critical to the future of our region. I urge your support for a stop in Leimert Park to support the vitality of one of the City's most important communities.

Sincerely,

WENDY GREUEL
City Controller

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